

Registered with BMI

2008

# The Cross of Snow

SATB

by

Tim Risher

Poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

## The Cross of Snow

In the long, sleepless watches of the night,  
A gentle face--the face of one long dead--  
Looks at me from the wall, where round its head  
The night-lamp casts a halo of pale light.  
Here in this room she died; and soul more white  
Never through martyrdom of fire was led  
To its repose; nor can in books be read  
The legend of a life more benedight.  
There is a mountain in the distant West  
That, sun-defying, in its deep ravines  
Displays a cross of snow upon its side.  
Such is the cross I wear upon my breast  
These eighteen years, through all the changing scenes  
And seasons, changeless since the day she died.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
1879

--Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882).  
His beloved wife Frances Appleton had died in 1861 of burns suffered when her dress caught fire.  
The famous photographer William Henry Jackson took the photo in the mountains of Colorado in 1873;  
the photo became famous and the mountain was named Mountain of the Holy Cross.

# The Cross of Snow

SATB

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

Tim Risher BMI

$\text{♩} = 65$  *Gently*  
*p*

Soprano  
In the long, sleep-less watch - es

Alto  
*p* In the long, sleep-less watch - es *p* of the night, \_\_\_\_\_

Tenor  
*p* In the long, sleep-less watch - es of the night, \_\_\_\_\_ the night, \_\_\_\_\_

Bass  
*p* In the long, sleep-less watch - es of the night, \_\_\_\_\_

Piano  
(rehearsal only)  
*p*

# Cross of Snow

4

S *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

of the\_\_ night, a gen-tle face a gen-tle face the face of one

A *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

a gen-tle face a gen-tle\_\_ face the face of one

T *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

a gen-tle face a gen-tle face\_\_ the face of one

B *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

a gen-tle face a gen-tle face\_\_ the face of one

Pf. *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

9

S *slight* ,

long\_\_ dead\_\_ from the wall,\_\_ where round its head\_\_

A *slight* ,

long dead\_\_ from the wall,\_\_ where

T *slight* ,

long\_\_ dead\_\_ looks at me\_\_ from the wall,\_\_ where round its head where

B *slight* ,

long\_\_ dead\_\_ looks at me\_\_ from the wall,\_\_ where round its head\_\_

Pf. *slight* ,

13

S

its head the night-lamp casts a ha-lo of pale light.

A

round its head its head the night-lamp casts a ha-lo of pale light.

T

8 round its head the night-lamp casts a ha-lo of pale light.

B

the night-lamp casts a ha-lo of pale light.

Pf.

13

13

*subito p* *pp* *cresc.* *mp*

*subito p* *pp* *cresc.* *mp*

*subito p* *pp* *cresc.* *mp*

*subito p* *pp* *cresc.* *mp*

*subito p* *pp* *cresc.* *mp*

19

S

Here in this room she died; and soul more white Ne-ver through mar - tyr -

A

Here in this room she died; and soul more white Ne-ver through mar - tyr -

T

8 Here in this room she died; she died; Ne-ver through mar - tyr -

B

she died; and soul more white Ne-ver through mar - tyr -

Pf.

19

19

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

Cross of Snow

6

22

S *ff* *mf*

dom of fire was led to its re - pose; nor can in

A *ff* *mf*

dom of fire was led to its re - pose; to its re - pose; nor can in

T *ff* *mf*

dom of fire was led to its re - pose; to its re - pose; nor can in

B *ff* *mf*

dom of fire was led to its re - pose; nor can in

Pf. 22

28

S

books be read The le - gend of a life more be - ne - dight.

A

books be read The le - gend of a life more be - ne - dight.

T

books be read The le - gend of a life more be - ne - dight.

B

books be read The le - gend of a life more be - ne - dight.

Pf. 28

34

S

A

T

B

Pf.

*p*

*pp*

There is\_\_ a mount-ain in the dis-tant West in the dis-tant West

There is\_\_ a mount-ain There is\_\_ a mount-ain in the dis-tant West in the dis-tant West

34

34

*p*

42

S

A

T

B

Pf.

*mp* *cresc.*

Dis-plays a cross\_\_ of snow up-on its\_\_

*mp* *cresc.*

in its deep ra - vines Dis-plays a cross\_\_ of snow up-on its\_\_

*mp* *cresc.*

That, \_\_ sun-de-fy - ing, in its deep ra - vines Dis-plays a cross of snow up-on its\_\_

*mp* *cresc.*

That, \_\_ sun-de-fy - ing, in its deep ra - vines Dis-plays a cross of snow up-on its\_\_

42

42

*mp* *mp* *cresc.*

Cross of Snow

8

49 *mf*

S side. Such\_\_ is the cross I\_\_ wear up - on my breast\_\_\_\_\_

A side. is the cross I wear up - on my breast\_\_\_\_\_

T side. the cross up - on my breast These\_\_ eight- een years, Such\_\_

B side. the cross up - on my breast\_\_\_\_\_

Pf. 49

53 *cresc.*

S the cross up - on my breast These\_\_ eight- een years, through all the

A *cresc.* is the cross I wear up - on my breast These\_\_ eight- een years, through all\_\_ the

T *cresc.* is the cross I\_\_ wear up - on my breast\_\_\_\_\_ through all the

B *cresc.* the cross up - on my breast\_\_\_\_\_ through all the

Pf. 53 *cresc.*



57 *f*

S chang-ing scenes\_\_\_\_\_ And sea - sons, change - less\_\_\_\_\_ since the day

A chang-ing scenes\_\_\_\_\_ And sea - sons, change - less\_\_\_\_\_ since the day\_\_\_\_\_

T 8 chang-ing scenes\_\_\_\_\_ And sea - sons, change - less\_\_\_\_\_ since the day\_\_\_\_\_

B chang-ing scenes\_\_\_\_\_ And sea-sons, change - less\_\_\_\_\_ since the day

Pf. 57 *f*

62 *decresc.* *mp*

S she died.\_\_\_\_\_ change - less change - - less change - less

A *decresc.* *mp*

A she\_ died. change - - less\_\_\_\_\_ change - - less change - less

T 8 *decresc.* *mp*

T she died. change - - less\_\_\_\_\_ change - - less change - - less\_

B *decresc.* *mp*

B she died.\_\_\_\_\_ change - less change - - less change - less

Pf. 62 *decresc.* *mp*

Cross of Snow

10

69

S

A

T

B

Pf.

*decresc.*

*p*

change - less change - less change - less

*decresc.*

*p*

change - less change - less change - less

*decresc.*

*p*

change - less change - less change - less

*decresc.*

*p*

change - less change - less change - less

In the long, sleep-less watch -

79

S

A

T

B

Pf.

*pp*

since the day she died.

*pp*

since the day she died.

*pp*

es of the night, since the day she died.

*pp*

change - - - less since the day she died.

*pp*